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*Happy Thanksgiving*

# KJIC November 2021 Newsletter

*Yes, Happy Thanksgiving!*

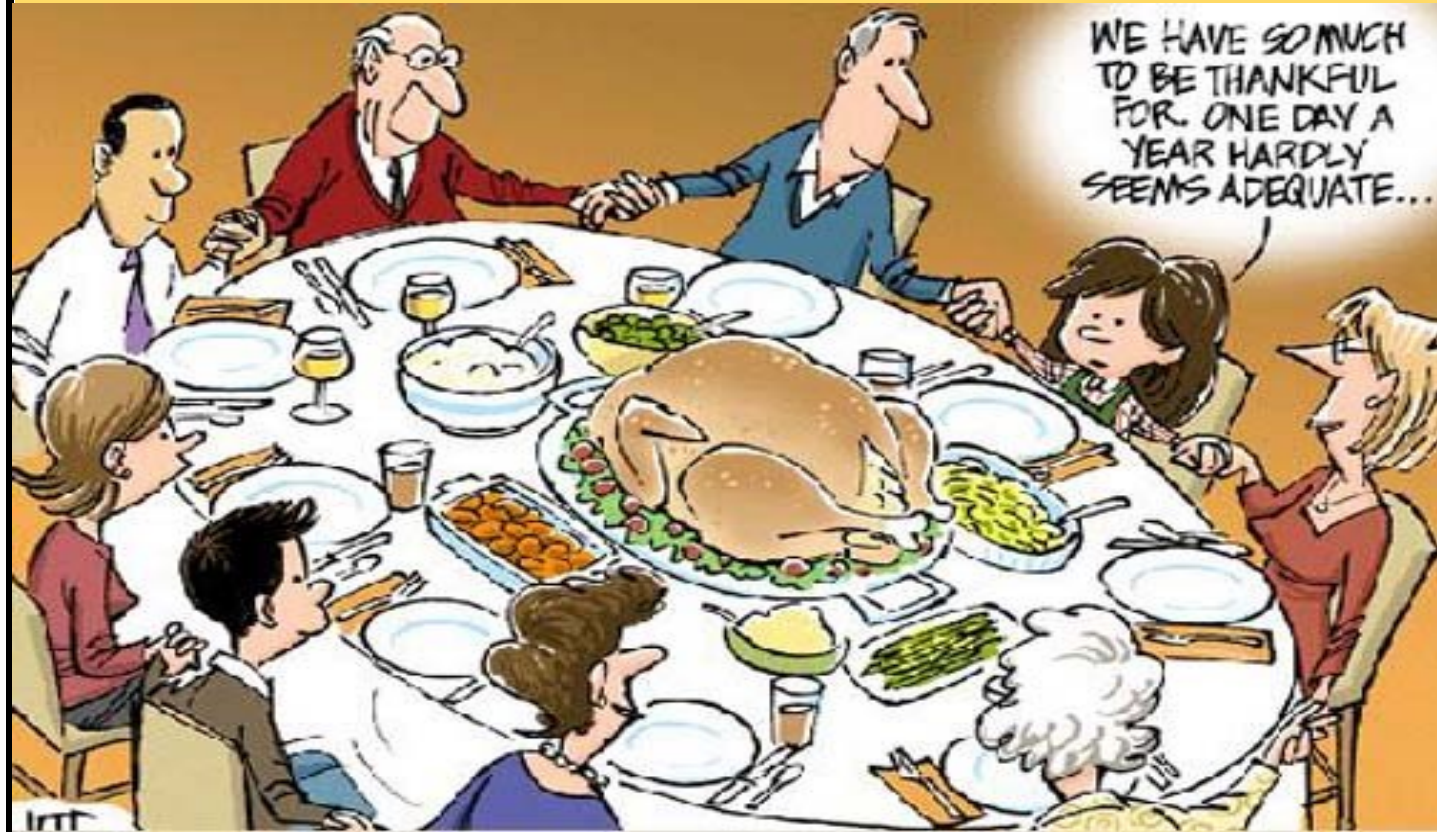
I trust that you are not among the many who stop only once a year to give thanks to our Creator and God. Most folks don't really know our God. They hear preachers who say that God will give them the desires of their unrepentant hearts, if they will simply ask and believe. When it doesn't happen they are told that it's their fault. They must not be believing hard enough or they need to give the preacher a little more money.

Come to Jesus for the right reasons. Ask His forgiveness of all your past sins. Ask for His Holy Spirit to come to teach and guide you. You will find Him putting *His* desires in your repentant heart and you will begin to do His good pleasure. You will desire His will. This then will be your best Thanksgiving.

And now, what about you and me. We are real Christians, lead by His Spirit. We are always thankful. Perchance the Lord would have us do something special this Thanksgiving. How about sharing, how you met Jesus, at your Thanksgiving dinner. How about taking a food basket to a poor family or maybe even inviting them to dinner.

There are other things that we can do that are not quite as personal. The Salvation Army, Open Doors Mission, The Star Of Hope will all be feeding hundreds if not thousands of needed folks. They would all welcome your help serving or maybe you could help them purchase the food.

Many folks don't have a good and loving family.  
But we all have a God who is good and who loves us.  
He has blessed us. Should we not share the blessing.



### Seek And You Will Find

D	A	E	R	B	L	O	G	A	N	P	A	R	K	E	R	J	L	I	F	E
L	U	M	O	N	C	E	U	P	O	N	A	T	I	M	E	A	V	I	C	M
I	J	O	B	I	T	X	D	A	W	Q	T	R	C	R	O	C	J	H	V	C
V	S	C	A	R	L	A	J	O	N	E	S	K	H	B	S	O	J	N	O	A
I	B	E	T	T	J	J	U	S	T	I	N	M	R	E	H	B	L	R	U	L
N	P	A	U	L	Y	E	Q	G	W	S	X	F	I	L	A	B	K	I	D	U
G	A	I	L	D	V	A	U	G	H	N	P	P	S	I	R	R	O	I	B	L
N	P	F	L	E	S	H	O	E	T	T	M	A	T	E	O	L	D	F	A	P
V	J	R	A	E	K	I	S	L	O	U	A	J	T	V	N	A	N	C	Y	M
F	O	R	E	V	E	R	E	V	E	R	Y	O	N	E	D	I	A	N	A	M
W	H	B	E	N	L	M	A	T	O	A	A	Y	B	S	P	I	R	I	T	P
P	N	P	A	T	L	S	N	Y	M	P	R	J	C	Z	D	S	R	C	O	B
B	M	I	S	S	Y	F	O	M	Y	I	X	N	O	P	B	K	P	O	M	H
R	O	B	E	R	T	L	O	J	I	S	L	K	E	T	E	R	N	A	L	K
J	A	C	K	G	A	I	L	V	I	C	K	I	E	D	C	M	N	L	I	P
P	L	F	D	A	D	D	Y	E	V	A	J	O	E	H	K	B	O	S	L	A
O	R	A	I	S	E	V	A	U	G	H	N	Q	R	Y	I	P	T	A	L	F
C	A	T	H	Y	S	T	W	O	R	D	S	D	U	M	P	B	H	P	Y	K
A	B	H	V	O	N	N	A	D	D	I	S	O	N	J	O	S	I	H	M	B
S	N	E	K	I	N	G	Y	A	E	V	B	D	M	H	K	L	N	J	U	T
T	S	R	I	H	T	S	T	E	V	E	B	E	N	L	R	E	G	N	U	H

FIND THESE WORDS FROM THE BOOK OF JOHN (NKJV), THEN LOCATE THEM IN THE WORD SEARCH.

- John 6:35 And Jesus said to them, "I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. He who comes to Me shall never \_\_\_\_\_, and he who believes in Me shall never \_\_\_\_\_.
- John 6:37 All that the Father gives Me will \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means \_\_\_\_\_ out.
- John 6:39 This is the will of the \_\_\_\_\_ who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose \_\_\_\_\_, but should \_\_\_\_\_ it up at the last day.
- John 6:40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that \_\_\_\_\_ who sees the Son and \_\_\_\_\_ in Him \_\_\_\_\_ have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."
- John 6:45 'And they shall all be \_\_\_\_\_ by God.' Therefore everyone who has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from the Father comes to Me.
- John 6:51 I am the \_\_\_\_\_ bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live \_\_\_\_\_; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the \_\_\_\_\_."
- John 6:63 It is the \_\_\_\_\_ who gives life; the \_\_\_\_\_ profits nothing. The \_\_\_\_\_ that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.
- John 6:67-69 "Do you also want to go \_\_\_\_\_?" <sup>68</sup> But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of \_\_\_\_\_ life. <sup>69</sup> Also we have come to believe and know that You are the \_\_\_\_\_, the Son of the living God."

## Giving Thanks At Mealtime

When anything becomes very familiar to us it tends to lose any sense of being special. Family members and friends can even become "not special" if we don't guard against it. The blessedness of being able to attend church, or of being able to go to work, or of having the necessary things and much more, can all become so familiar and routine that we fail to express our thanks to Him who provides.

This seems to be especially true in our giving thanks at mealtime. Mealtime happens two, three, or more times a day; it's very familiar and routine. Most of us have been taught since childhood to give thanks at mealtime. That might be part of the problem. Do we grow up thinking that giving of thanks at mealtime is a childhood practice? After we get over this childhood thing of it just being cute, does it ever become serious? When the family gathers to eat is it always one of the children who leads in prayer? Could it not be beneficial for an adult to lead in prayer once in a while? Would that not keep meal time prayers from being perceived as a childhood practice?

I'm 78 years old, and giving thanks at meal time is still special to me. If I'm in a restaurant or other public place, I'm not shy about giving thanks. If I'm in a private home or other private place for a meal, and thanks is not offered as a group, I don't force others, but I have no trouble bowing my head and quietly offering God thanks.

I've never felt that meal time prayers were the appropriate place to preach. Prayers are said for the purpose of being heard by God. Meal time prayers are a time to express thanks to God for His provisions. When our meal time prayers are offered sincerely, even the squash and beets taste better. After all, it's what God has chosen to provide.

Do you remember as a child this meal time prayer?

"God is great and God is good, let us thank Him for this food.  
By His hand we all are fed, give us Lord our daily bread."

My grandmother at meal time would pray:

"Thank you Lord for these and all other blessings."

A meal time prayer that I pray most often goes something like this:

"We love you God and we ask you to bless this food.  
Make it to be strength and health to our bodies,  
That we might serve you better."  
(I might add - bless those who prepared it; or bless our fellowship if it's a special gathering; or bless certain people if their presence is special)  
"In Jesus name, Amen."

The most important thing about any prayer is that it comes from a clean and selfless heart. The length; the poetic qualities; the time of day or night; your posture or volume; all are without significance. A clean heart will pray an effective prayer.

Let your meal time prayers come from clean hearts and hungry stomachs. Remember that these bodies are the temples of God. You have been bought with a price. You are not your own. Be a good steward of what the Lord has entrusted to you. Do no harm to God's temple.